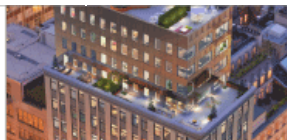


WARREN LOFTS  
TRIBECA

**AUTHENTIC  
TRIBECA LOFTS**

212.571.3700  
www.37WARREN.COM

Do you know the value of your property?

Singapore Property Watch

FIND OUT NOW

JOBS | CARS | PROPERTY | CLASSIFIEDS

3-TIME WINNER OF ASIAN DIGITAL MEDIA AWARDS FOR BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE: GOLD (2012), SILVER (2011), BRONZE (2013)

# ST Breaking News Asia

ST Index 3,104.17 7.7 Singapore weather 25 °C - 33 °C  
25/03/2014 17:10

Search StraitsTimes.com

Breaking News Premium Videos Citizen Journalism Communities Photos / Art Straits Times Index

kiss92™ LISTEN LIVE!

The Conversation Parliament My Tip-Off School Pocket Money Fund ChildAid Motoring Cars Jobs Property Classifieds Newsletter Weather **NEW!**

SINGAPOLITICS | asiareport | READERS' POST | THE STRAITS TIMES COMMUNITIES Entertainment | Lollipop | THROUGH THE LENS | sgtravellers.com

## Stability in India after polls is crucial for economy: Expert

Published on Mar 24, 2014 8:08 PM

(http://iavascwww.strip.voiraitstid(0).mes.c

0  
1  
2  
3



(http://www.straitstimes.com/sites/straitstimes.com/files/20140324/sjindia243e.jpg)

Canvas banners printed with logos of Indian political parties are pictured at a processing house ahead of elections in Ahmedabad on March 24, 2014. India has reached government fatigue with the present administration and a sense of stability after elections is crucial for its businesses and the economy, said Mr Claude Smadja, an observer of India and co-chair of The Growth Net, a three-day forum being held here. -- PHOTO: AFP

By Nilanjana Sengupta, Assistant Foreign Editor

NEW DELHI - India has reached government fatigue with the present administration and a sense of stability after elections is crucial for its businesses and the economy, said Mr Claude Smadja, an observer of India and co-chair of The Growth Net, a three-day forum being held here.

"A change in government might be seen as necessary to revive the energy in the country," Mr Smadja told The

news POST  
Purchase this article for republication (http://newslink.asiaone.com/ins/newsPostEnquiryRequest.action)

PhotoBank Buy SPH photos (http://www.photobank.com.sg/)

THE 23<sup>WEST</sup> 116<sup>TH</sup>  
ADELINE  
Spectacularly Crafted  
Harlem Condos

THEADELINE.COM // 212.486.3916

### Previous

- (/breaking-news/asia/story/xi-tells-us-be-fair-chinas-mainland-police-arrests-another-leader-of-home-grown-militant-group (/breaking-news/asia/story/india-police-arrests-another-leader-home-grown-militant-group-20140325)
- Militants attack Kabul election office (/breaking-news/asia/story/militants-attack-kabul-election-office-20140325)
- China's face mask industry under scrutiny as pollution worsens (/breaking-news/asia/story/chinas-face-mask-industry-under-scrutiny-pollution-worsens-20140325)
- Anti-corruption champion set to challenge India's Modi (/breaking-news/asia/story/anti-corruption-champion-set-challenge-indias-modi-20140325)
- Bangladesh moves to ban largest Islamic party (/breaking-news/asia/story/bangladesh-moves-ban-largest-islamic-party-20140325)
- Health costs of China's polluted air 'up to \$300 billion a year' (/breaking-news/asia/story/health-costs-chinas-polluted-air-300-billion-year-20140325)
- Taiwan's Ma says ready to meet protesters over China trade pact (/breaking-news/asia/story/taiwans-ma-says-ready-meet-protesters-over-china-trade-pact-20140325)
- South Korea activists launch leaflets, DVDs into North (/breaking-news/asia/story/south-korea-activists-launch-leaflets-dvds-north-20140325)
- India Supreme Court urges cricket chief to quit (/breaking-news/asia/story/india-supreme-court-urges-cricket-chief-quit-20140325)
- Ukraine crisis: Japan to offer \$1.9 billion aid to Kiev (/breaking-news/asia/story/ukraine-crisis-japan-offer-19-billion-aid-kiev-20140325)
- Fukushima fishermen approve plan to release groundwater from plant: Reports (/breaking-news/asia/story/fukushima-fishermen-approve-plan-release-groundwater-plant-reports-20140325)

Straits Times on the sidelines

of the forum. "In every country in the world at some stage when a party has been in power past a certain time, you have government fatigue. India has reached that limit."

"India's economic performance has been sub-par compared with its potential," he said.

While external factors have had a negative impact on the economy, India still could have been doing much better, said Mr Smadja, who describes himself as a foreign observer of India with a long association that began in 1972 when he covered the Bangladesh liberation war as a journalist. Since then, he has been visiting India regularly, sometimes six to seven times in a year.

"There is a need to find, with a new government configuration, a way to revive hope, energies and recreate anticipation after a sense of discouragement that we have seen over the last two to three years," he said.

The Growth Net is organised by strategic advisory firm Smadja and Smadja, as well as independent non-profit Ananta Centre. It is conceptualised as a platform to create business linkages among emerging economies.

The forum, which began on Sunday, will have a plenary session on Tuesday that focused on India's economic growth.

India goes to the polls from April 7. Its rupee and stock markets have already been rising in anticipation of a new government that will boost growth.

The second half of the ruling Congress party's 10 years in power has been plagued by corruption scandals and policy paralysis.

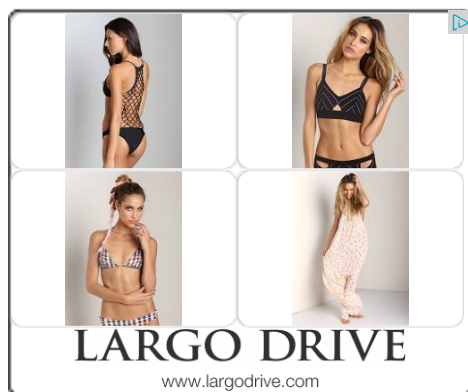
National opinion polls have been predicting victory for the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by Mr Narendra Modi, chief minister of Gujarat for almost 13 years. He has been credited for leading the western state to high growth rates and for eliminating red tape for investors.

But polls also say no single party will gain an outright majority in the next parliament, a source of concern for businesses.

Whatever the outcome - whether it is a BJP-led coalition at the centre, or the ruling Congress party returns to power, or the Third Front (a new coalition of 11 regional parties) plays a role - it is crucial for businesses to get a sense of stability, said Mr Smadja.

[nilasen@sph.com.sg](mailto:nilasen@sph.com.sg) ([mailto:nilasen@sph.com.sg](mailto:mailto:nilasen@sph.com.sg))

**Like** 3 people like this. Be the first of your friends.



[Foreign powers put doubts over India's Modi on hold](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/foreign-powers-put-doubts-over-indias-modi-hold-20140325)

[IMF releases fresh funds for Pakistan](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/imf-releases-fresh-funds-pakistan-20140325)

[Xi tells US to be 'fair' on China's maritime disputes](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/xi-tells-us-be-fair-chinas-maritime-disputes-20140325)

**Stability in India after polls is crucial for economy: Expert** (/breaking-news/asia/story/stability-india-after-polls-crucial-economy-expert-20140324)

## Most Popular

- [Michelle Obama champions freedom of expression at Peking University](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/michelle-obama-champions-freedom-expression-peking-university-20140322)
- [India's SpiceJet under fire for mid-air song and dance](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/indias-spicejet-under-fire-mid-air-song-and-dance-20140321)
- [India must stop 'irrational' TB treatments: MSF](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/india-must-stop-irrational-tb-treatments-msf-20140323)
- [US First Lady Michelle Obama meets Chinese educators, tours the Great Wall](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/us-first-lady-michelle-obama-meets-chinese-educators-20140323)
- [Japan PM Abe to visit Anne Frank house in Amsterdam in gesture to Jews](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/japan-pm-abe-visit-anne-frank-house-amsterdam-gesture-jews-20140323)
- [North Korea test-fires 16 rockets into sea: South Korea](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/north-korea-test-fires-16-rockets-sea-south-korea-20140323)
- [Taiwan leader says protest-hit China trade pact vital for economy](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/taiwan-leader-says-protest-hit-china-trade-pact-vital-economy-20140323)
- [Taiwan premier says won't withdraw China trade pact](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/taiwan-premier-says-wont-withdraw-china-trade-pact-20140322)
- [Thousands mourn Shanghai's 'underground' bishop](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/thousands-mourn-shanghais-underground-bishop-20140322)
- [Indian police arrest key terror suspect](#) (/breaking-news/asia/story/indian-police-arrest-key-terror-suspect-20140323)

0 Comments The Straits Times johanne.home@s... ▾

Sort by Newest ▾

Share ↗ Favorite ★



Start the discussion...

Be the first to comment.

ALSO ON THE STRAITS TIMES

WHAT'S THIS?

**Indonesia bans Hollywood epic 'Noah' over Islamic concerns**

2 comments • 3 hours ago



**Priplanning Testiing** — Strange also that you can embrace people from another religion, ...

**Malaysia Airlines liable to pay millions in damages even if ...**

1 comment • 2 hours ago



**GUSSIE91** — oh my.....fortunately, I have sold all MAS share last ...

**Positive identification of debris will take at least 24 hours: ...**

3 comments • 6 hours ago



**powerranger** — "Until debris is found, everything is virtually speculation", Australia's ...

**Chinese relatives of missing MH370 passengers accuse ...**

5 comments • 5 hours ago



**MendYou** — Anger comes after the initial stage of sadness esp when one feels Shortchanged ...

✉ Subscribe

ⓓ Add Disqus to your site